

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10, and 11 stand rejected. Claims 1 and 6 are independent claims.

Claim 9 has been objected for insufficient antecedent basis of “a third buffer” and “a fourth buffer”. As claim 6 has been amended to incorporate features of claim 8 including “a first buffer” and “a second buffer”, claim 9 is now provided with sufficient antecedent basis.

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating that each of the claims 3 and 7-9 would be allowable if each claim is rewritten as an independent claim incorporating all features of the base and any intervening claims.

In response, the applicant has amended independent claim 1 as suggested by the examiner. Independent claim 6 was amended only to include the features cited in claim 8 since the features cited in claim 7 is redundant. Both features in claim 7 are already recited in claim 6.

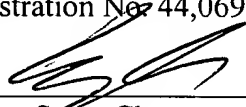
Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection on each claim.

Amendment
Serial No. 09/350,436

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues which may be best resolved by telephone, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Signature and Date)